

Application Serial No. 10/808,954
Amendment dated October 31, 2005
Reply to Office Action dated June 30, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original): An oven, comprising:
 - an interior wall forming a cooking chamber;
 - a source of steam in fluid communication with said cooking chamber, whereby said source of steam provides a quantity of steam to said cooking chamber; and
 - a conduit having a tapered passage positioned intermediate said source of steam and said cooking chamber, whereby said quantity of steam traverses said tapered passage to enter said cooking chamber.
2. (original): The oven of Claim 1, wherein said source of steam comprises a water reservoir containing a quantity of water and a heating element for boiling said quantity of water, and wherein said oven further comprises a cover positioned intermediate said cooking chamber and said water reservoir, whereby said cover directs said quantity of steam to said conduit having a tapered passage.
3. (original): The oven of Claim 2, wherein said cover comprises:
 - a plurality of adjacent panels; and
 - an exit panel extending from each said adjacent panel, wherein said exit panels cooperate to form said tapered passage.
4. (original): The oven of Claim 3, wherein at least two of said plurality of adjacent panels are conjoined by a connecting panel extending from said at least two adjacent panels.

5. (original): The oven of Claim 2, wherein said cover comprises:
a panel; and
an exit panel extending from said panel, wherein said exit panel cooperates with said interior wall to form said tapered passage.

6. (original): The oven of Claim 2, wherein said cover comprises:
a panel having a panel aperture; and
a projection extending from said panel, said projection having a tapered aperture, wherein said panel aperture is in fluid communication with said tapered aperture, and wherein said tapered passage comprises said tapered aperture.

7. (original): An oven, comprising:
an interior wall forming a cooking chamber;
a source of steam in fluid communication with said cooking chamber, whereby said source of steam provides a quantity of steam to said cooking chamber; and
an acceleration means for accelerating said quantity of steam.

8. (original): The oven of Claim 7, wherein said source of steam comprises:
a water reservoir containing a quantity of water; and
a heating element for boiling said quantity of water, and wherein said oven further comprises a cover positioned intermediate said cooking chamber and said water reservoir, whereby said cover directs said quantity of steam to said acceleration means.

9. (original): The oven of Claim 8, wherein said cover comprises:
a plurality of adjacent panels; and
an exit panel extending from each said adjacent panel, wherein said exit panels cooperate to form tapered passage, and wherein said acceleration means comprises said tapered passage.

10. (original): The oven of Claim 9, wherein at least two of said plurality of adjacent panels are conjoined by a connecting panel extending from said at least two adjacent panels.

11. (original): The oven of Claim 8, wherein said cover comprises:
a panel; and
an exit panel extending from said panel, wherein said exit panel cooperates with said interior wall to form a tapered passage, and wherein said acceleration means comprises said tapered passage.

12. (original): The oven of Claim 8, wherein said cover comprises:
a panel having a panel aperture; and
a projection extending from said panel, said projection having a tapered aperture, wherein said panel aperture is in fluid communication with said tapered aperture, and wherein said acceleration means comprises said tapered aperture.

13. (original): A method of accelerating steam in a cooking chamber of an oven comprising the steps of:
providing a quantity of steam;
transferring said quantity of steam to the cooking chamber; and
accelerating said quantity of steam during said transferring step.

14. (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said step of accelerating said quantity of steam comprises providing a conduit having a tapered passage in fluid communication with said quantity of steam and said cooking chamber.

15. (new): The oven of claim 5, wherein said exit panel forms an angle greater than ninety degrees with said panel.

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16. (new): The oven of Claim 5, wherein said exit panel forms an angle of substantially one-hundred degrees with said panel.